



Like the best well assorted food markets: report from the Research Network Group Chair

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Practice Network Group

Karin Schaad, Chair



How time flies by! In the last issue there were loads of information about the approaching EFMC conference in Glasgow and now it is already long

past. But, as you all know, after the conference is before the conference, meaning that we are even now preparing to send out call for papers for next year's edition of the EFMC in Milan. In order to make it worthwhile for even more FM professionals to attend, several things will be changed for next year's conference. One issue we are looking to tackle is to make the EFMC more affordable by slightly reducing the number of tracks while keeping up or even improving the quality of the remaining presentations.

Since not everyone was able to attend the Gala Dinner, this event will be

replaced by a simpler, more casual stand up dinner, giving attendees more opportunity to mingle and talk to a greater number of people. This will also include a meeting point where some of the topics addressed during the day may be further discussed with likeminded attendees.

First, however, there is another Members Meeting coming up at the end of October. This, too, will be taking place in the great and centrally placed city of Milan. Those of you who have not visited the Expo yet might want to add a day or two to the journey and take that in as well.

For the Members Meeting, too, there will be changes in order to make it even more interesting for FM professionals to attend. While there will be separate network group meetings on the first day as usual, on the second day several workshops will be held where the members of the various groups actually collaborate with each other on developing a solution for the proposed topics. Since the purpose of EuroFM as an Association of Associations is to bring together Research, Education and Practice, these workshops will hopefully lead to a better understanding of what needs and skills each of the groups brings to the table.

At the Members meeting we will also give a short viewing of the video "women in FM" which was produced following the panel discussion with the same title at the Glasgow conference. Although only a small group of people attended the discussion, those who did found it such a motivating and empowering experience that the idea of the video was brought up (by one of the few male attendees, no less!). We are very proud that in the short time span since Glasgow, we were able to capture the essence of the panel discussion in a short video aimed at encouraging young female FM professionals to work hard and aim for the top in spite of all the difficulties they might encounter.

As stated in the last EFMI Issue, the Practice Network Group wants to discuss topics of interest to the FM professionals at every meeting, in order to make meetings more attractive to members. In the future, one or two topics from the top of the list put together from the results of the survey will be published in the PNG Agenda, so PNG members will know what to expect and can prepare for the discussion. Within the next PNG meeting, we would like to discuss the Topic "Facility Leadership", since we were not able to discuss it in Glasgow.

At the PNG meetings, we will also get updates on open issues from the previous meetings. Unfortunately, so far there is not much to tell about the FM Data Report. While we are working out how to organise the compilation of the required data in a sustainable and durable way, how to put the data together will now be the topic of a student thesis. There will however be information about the progress made on the ISO Standard and the EU Coalition.

All Practice Network Group members are very welcome to give input about any other FM-related topics they wish to bring forward or discuss at the PNG meeting or give suggestions about what should be further investigated.

In order to allow for better coordination and to make sure there is time enough for everyone who wishes to present a topic, please contact me in advance at karin.schaad@bluewin.ch.

I am very much looking forward to hearing from you or to meeting you again in Milan starting with the Welcome Reception on Wednesday, 28.10.2015.

A presto e tanti saluti

Education Network Group

Pekka Matvejeff, Chair



I hope all of us have had an opportunity to enjoy the summer break so that we are now full of energy when tackling various challenges

wherever we are and whatever we do. It

was also very motivating and energizing to meet many of you in the 2015 EFMC in Glasgow in June.

EuroFM board has defined the Network's strategic goals and they were shortly discussed in Glasgow. The discussion will go on in Milan in October. One of the goals is to add value to the members of EuroFM Network through bridging practitioners with research and education. One concrete way under this strategic umbrella is to develop a concept for FM student's internship-process in such a way that this future FM potential would be easily in reach for our members and on the other hand, students would be offered a platform, where they could

find internship opportunities amongst our members.

It was a coincidence that at the same time, when the EuroFM Education Network Group started to develop this idea further, IFMA Foundation and BIFM had similar developments on their agenda in order to promote the idea of working in a collaborative way between Students-Education-Employers to set up sustainable internship opportunities for the future of the FM industry.

Based on the initiative presented by Adrian Anderson (IFMA Foundation) a group of EuroFM, BIFM and IFMA Foundation representatives (Deborah Rowland, Margaret Nelson, Karin Schaad, Richard Keane, Adrian

Anderson and Pekka Matvejeff) gathered together in Glasgow in June in order to develop the concept idea forward together.

The main objective of this work is to enhance and increase the connection between commercial organizations and EuroFM's vast network of Academic Institutions. Another goal is to enhance the collaboration between EuroFM, BIFM and IFMA Foundation.

I am calling all our members to join this development process and ask for your input and ideas into it. Feel free to contact me, if there is a need to discuss this initiative further. Meanwhile, looking forward to meeting you in Milan!

Research Network Group

Susanne Balslev Nielsen, Chair



Like the best well assorted food markets

Our annual conference EFMC is like visiting a rich, colorful and well assorted food market, where the displayed goods are FM knowledge

and not food. And as in the best food markets, FM knowledge in a variety of shapes, colors and origins.

The EFMC2015 was, as always, rich on research offers. As chair of RNG, I can say to be very satisfied with the research paper sessions and with the fact that all research papers are available on the EuroFM website as well as in printed version. My deepest thanks go to all the people who made a large and dedicated effort to smoothly run the event: presenters, moderators, scientific committee, sponsors and all others who somehow helped out. Thank you!

The planning for next year's EFMC in Milan has already started, and the call for papers encourages FM researchers

to submit papers about their ongoing research. The competition of getting a paper accepted is likely to be harder this time, as I expect that many abstracts will be submitted as compared to the limited number of slots for full paper presentations. With the help from the scientific committee and the program planning committee, we will work hard to ensure that the academic quality and the practical relevance of the FM research presented at EFMC continue to improve. This way we can ensure that also EFMC2016 will be a rich and inspiring marketplace, where FM knowledge is offered, considered and hopefully brought home.

As any good salesman, a researcher

will listen to outspoken opportunities for bringing new products to the market. The next members meeting in Milan in October is dedicated to networking opportunities to connect FM companies with relevant researchers and educators; but also to co-create a supply chain for new FM insights to be offered at our unique FM knowledge marketplace in 2016 and beyond.

So come to Milan in October and make yourself know by sharing your offerings to other EuroFM members, and let them know what you would like to succeed with; and you can be certain that some kind of help, in the networking spirit that always characterizes EFMC, will show up.